

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's February 13, 2003, Official Action and respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following comments.

Claims 1-9 remain in the application for consideration.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicant has amended the claims to eliminate each of the problems identified by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has now been overcome.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yu '601, claims 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yu in view of Terry '752 and Bigolin '024, and claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yu in view of Morrow '068.

Applicant respectfully traverses all of these rejections especially as applied to the claims as amended.

The cited USP 6,095, 601, i.e. the Applicant Admitted Prior Art, was a prior invention of the applicant of the claimed invention. It is clear that the longitudinal rib (partition) 34 of the cited '601 patent is used only to divide the "single" receiving space into two receiving spaces, and the circular shoulder portion 32, which circumscribes the two receiving spaces 28 and 30, is a part of the main body. The

cited '601 patent does not disclose and/or teach a plurality of supporting bars engaged in and crossing over the receiving space as defined in amended claim 1.

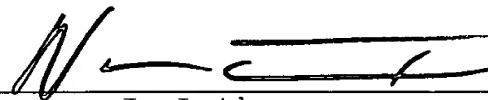
Further, Morrow does not teach a plurality of supporting bars formed integrally with the main body from the same plastic material as the main body and disposed only in the rear portion of the main body corresponding in location to the sitting area. Morrow is directed only to a netting of wire engaged over its entire saddle. In addition, there is no teaching whatever in Morrow of bonding an elastic body as defined by Applicant on top of the Morrow netting of wire or limiting the location of the netting of wire to only the rear portion of its saddle. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or incentive for the Yu/Morrow combination suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant submits that the invention is new and unobvious and not disclosed by the cited art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's early review and issuance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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